

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in the present application. In this response, claims 25-27 have been cancelled, claims 1 and 13 amended, and new claim 28 added. Support for the amendments and added claim is found throughout the specification as originally filed. No new matter is added. Accordingly, claims 1-24 and 28 are currently under consideration. Amendment and cancellation of certain claims is not to be construed as a dedication to the public of any of the subject matter of the claims as previously presented.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102(e)

Claims 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. 6,497,704 to Ein-Gal.

In this response, claims 25-27 have been cancelled, rendering moot the rejection.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 1-9 and 13-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. 5,892,667 to Glasband et al. (Glasband) in view of U.S. 5,620,481 to Desai et al. (Desai).

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to specify that the transformer has a ferrite core. Support for this amendment is at least found at page 5, lines 23-25 of the specification as originally filed. In one important respect, the rejected claims are not obvious because Glasband fails to teach such a transformer. Desai also does not teach the use of transformers, but rather describes a multi-phase power supply or a single phase power supply using phase shifting circuitry. Thus, Desai clearly lacks any teaching of a ferrite core transformer. Accordingly, Desai does not cure the defect in Glasband.

In another respect, obviousness has not been established because it would not make sense to one of skill to use a ferrite core in view of the Glasband disclosure. Glasband would not rely on the use of a transformer having a ferrite core as Glasband is operable at common power

supply frequencies of 50 - 60 Hz. In contrast, the system as presently claimed uses radio frequency energies in the range of 500kHz to 600kHz (the standard frequency range used for tissue ablation techniques), which range is orders of magnitude higher than normal power supply frequency range.

Because Glasband operates in the normal power frequency band, there is no need for a ferrite core. Ferrite cores are more expensive than conventional steel cores and saturate faster. Therefore, to use a ferrite core in the power supply of Glasband would require a far larger transformer to operate at these lower frequencies to achieve energy transfer. In contrast, a ferrite core, having higher initial permeability, facilitates efficient energy transfer at the radio frequencies in question.

As indicated, it would therefore be counterproductive to use a ferrite core in the transformer of Glasband as this would increase the expense and size of the product of Glasband when there is no need to do so. Operating a ferrite core in the frequency range of Glasband would result in power loss in and, unwanted heating of, the core.

At least in view of the above, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, all presently pending claims in this application are believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 559022001200. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: April 7, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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